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## Senate

The Senate met at 9:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON, a Senator from the State of Georgia.

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray:

Eternal and Almighty God, we have lived long enough to know that we cannot escape Your presence or Your love. Teach us Your way of salvation and show us the path that leads to a meaningful life.

Today, use our lawmakers to accomplish Your will. Stretch their understanding so that they will have the right priorities. Give them a creativity to devise strategies which will make our Nation and world better. Enter their hearts and make them Your faithful servants. Equip them to relieve suffering and to serve sacrificially. Make their highest motivation be not to win over one another but to win with one another by doing Your will.

We pray in Your awesome Name. Amen.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

U.S. SENATE,  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,  
Washington, DC, September 21, 2006.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule 1, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHNNY ISAKSON, a

Senator from the State of Georgia, to perform the duties of the Chair.

TED STEVENS,  
President pro tempore.

Mr. ISAKSON thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

### RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

### SCHEDULE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, today, we will begin a 30-minute period of morning business, which will be equally divided between the two sides. Following that morning business, we will return to the motion to proceed to the border fence act. Cloture on the motion to proceed was unanimously invoked yesterday. The postcloture time will expire at 5:45 this afternoon. We will be on the bill at that time, or if an agreement is reached with the Democratic leader, we hope to proceed to it at an earlier time. Senators will be alerted as to the prospects for rollcall votes as we determine what the rest of today's schedule is.

### ACTIVITY IN THE SENATE

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, we have a lot of activity going on, both on the floor and also off the floor. We have several conference reports, in terms of appropriations bills—Homeland Security and Department of Defense. We are making real progress. We will address those next week. An issue which I am constantly asked about by press and constituents is what progress is being made and how much progress is being made on the legislation surrounding terrorist camps and terrorist military tribunals and terrorist surveillance. There is a lot of activity at the committee level. Negotiations are under-

way and, hopefully, we will be able to report back more on that later this afternoon.

Today, I believe most of the debate postcloture time will be used on border security and on the issues surrounding immigration. We will have votes on Monday and, I would say, they are likely Friday. As I have said each day this week, we may have to be in next Saturday. I urge our colleagues to focus on accelerating their work at the committee level so we can finish at a reasonable time next week.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, has the majority leader made a decision as to when we are going to vote Monday?

Mr. FRIST. Monday afternoon around 5 o'clock to 6:30. There have been several questions about that.

Mr. REID. The other question is, I recognize that other than delaying things, if the majority wants to go home, that is what we do because we have fewer votes than they have. But my Senators are asking, and staff is asking, is this Friday and Saturday the date that the majority is going to go home?

Mr. FRIST. Next Friday or Saturday.

Mr. REID. The reason I say that, if there is some anticipation that if things don't work out, we are going to go beyond next week, our folks should know that.

Mr. FRIST. It is very important, Mr. President, that we keep everybody's schedules clear because there are campaigns going on. People need to get back to their States. It is our intent that we are going to stick with it. Unless there is an unforeseen emergency of some sort, we will finish next week. We will be out this month. My intention is to finish Friday, working with the Democratic leader in that regard. There is very important business for us to do, and that should send a signal that we have to keep our committees and conferences working for the rest of today, tomorrow, and over the course of the weekend and into next week.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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